



Aerial photo of the north side of Mt. Baker

## Mt. Baker National **Recreation Area**

The Mt. Baker National Recreation Area was established in 1984 to allow for snowmobile use when snow levels are sufficient. This impressive landscape is accessible by trails leading from the end of Forest Road 13 or through the surrounding Mt. Baker Wilderness from the South Fork Nooksack river drainage.

Hikers can explore the trails and stock animals are welcome Aug. 1 to Nov. 1. Visitors should prepare for challenging creek crossings in this area due to swift water flow.

To help prevent resource damage and protect sub-alpine vegetation, campers in the NRA must stay at designated sites and no campfires are allowed. One-night-only campsites are established for hikers and stock parties at the trailhead at the end of Forest Road 13.

Winter recreation includes skiing, snowmobiling and snowshoeing when snow levels are sufficient.

Please ask for a detailed handout on campsites and area regulations at a ranger station.

## **Baker Lake**

Nine-mile (14 km) long Baker Lake is located on the Baker River about 8 miles north of the North Cascades Highway (State Route 20). The lake basin offers opportunities for camping, boating, fishing, picnicking, hiking and pack & saddle trips. Washington State regulations govern boating and fishing activities on the lake.

National Forest developed campgrounds and a privately operated summer resort are located along the western side of the lake. The Baker Lake Trail extends along the eastern shoreline, crossing the Baker River at the north end. The Upper Baker Dam operated by Puget Sound Energy is located at the south end of the lake along with the Kulshan Campground and Baker Lake Lodge.

For camping information see the chart on page 4; for Baker Lake Lodge & Resort information call (888) 711-3033 or visit www.bakerlakelodge.com

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Popular Trails in Baker Lake Area				
Mt. Baker National Recreation Area Trails				
Trail #	Name	Access	Distance one-way miles	Remarks
603	Park Butte	Road 13	3.5 (5.6 km)	Enters wilderness, no fires, camp at designated sites, stock 8/1 to 11/1
603.1	Scott Paul	Road 13	6.5 (10.5 km)	No camping, hikers only
603.2	Railroad Grade	Trail 603	1.0 (1.6 km)	Camp at designated sites, no fires, hikers only
603.3	Bell Pass	Road 12	5.0 (8.0 km)	Wilderness, stock allowed 8/1 to 11/1
696	Ridley Creek	Road 38	5.5 (8.9 km)	Not maintained, connects to trail 603.3
697	Elbow Lake	Road 12 Road 38	3.0 (4.8 km) 3.5 (5.6 km)	Wilderness, stock allowed 8/1 to 11/1
Baker Lake Area Trails				
604.1	Dock Butte	Road 1230	1.5 (2.4 km)	Leads to a scenic vista
604	Blue Lake	Road 1230	0.7 (1.1 km)	Short forest hike to lake
606	Baker River	Road 11	2.6 (4.2 km)	Enters National Park
610	Baker Lake	Road 1107	14.0 (22.5 km)	Stock allowed year-round
611	Watson Lakes	Rd. 1107-022	2.3 (3.7 km)	Wilderness, no fires, camp at designated sites
611.2	Anderson Lakes	Rd. 1107-022	2.4 (3.8 km)	Non-wilderness
623	Shadow of the Sentinels	Baker Lk. Road	0.5 ( 0.8 km)	Accessible, Interpretive
A Northwest Forest Pass is required at posted recreation sites and trailheads. Always check trail				

and road conditions at the Forest Service website or by calling a ranger station.